

The HAWK (right) is an infrared gas imaging camera that captures images of volatile gases that are invisible to the naked eye. During the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the helicopter mounted HAWK camera flew several mission looking for volatile gas releases at chemical facilities, rail yards, tank farms, etc. The information obtained during these flight assessments was shared with the Unified Command Center for multiple purposes including assisting first responders.





Conoco-Phillips, Inc., Belle Chase, La.



Lower left: The leaking sphere is undetectable to the naked eye. Lower right: The HAWK camera detects the propane leak at the facility. First responders and company officials were notified and corrective action was taken.